

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CANBER 01743 090317Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02
DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 COME-00 INT-05
SIL-01 LAB-04 /123 W
-----025779 091959Z /40

R 090009Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2619
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMCONSUL BRISBANE
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL PERTH
AMCONSUL SYDNEY
USDOE GERMANTOWN
USDOE WASHDC
CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 1743

USOECD
USIAEA
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, ETRD, AS
SUBJECT: ANTHONY DECLARES THAT RANGER MINE NEEDED TO FILL URANIUM
CONTRACTS

REF: (A) 77 CANBERRA 08866 (DTG 200506Z DEC 77),
(B) 77 CANBERRA 0912 (DTG 210649Z DEC 77)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CANBER 01743 090317Z

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER
FOR TRADE AND RESOURCES, ANTHONY, TOLD PARLIAMENT ON MARCH 7
THAT UNLESS THE RANGER URANIUM DEPOSITS WERE DEVELOPED AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE, AUSTRALIA MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO HONOR
EXISTING CONTRACTS WITH OVERSEAS BUYERS. ANTHONY SAID
THAT AUSTRALIA STILL 3,000 SHORT TONS SHORT OF FUL-
FILLING URANIUM CONTRACTS AND THAT SITUATION COULD

BECOME SERIOUS BY 1981-82. HE ADDED THAT, "THIS ONLY HEIGHTENS THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING THE RANGER MINE AS SOON AS IT IS POSSIBLE TO DO SO AFTER ALL THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH PARTIES TO WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN A COMMITMENT THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD TAKE PLACE."

2. ANTHONY SAID THAT CONTRACTS INVOLVING MARY KATHLEEN MINE, QUEENSLAND MINES AND THE RANGER PARTNERS WERE FOR ABOUT 11,700 SHORT TONS OF URANIUM TO BE DELIVERED UP TO 1986. HE ADDED THAT PART OF THE COMMITMENT HAD BEEN MET BY EXPORTS FROM MARY KATHLEEN AND PARTLY FROM THE GOVERNMENT STOCKPILE, BUT THE RESERVE AT MARY KATHLEEN WAS ONLY 6,500 SHORT TONS AND THE GOVERNMENT STOCKPILE WAS 2,000 SHORT TONS. HE CONCLUDED THAT IF ONE WERE TO "DO HIS SUMS" IT WOULD BE CLEAR THAT THERE COULD BE A 3,000 TONNE SHORTFALL AND ADDED THAT THE SITUATION WAS MADE MORE CRITICAL BY THE FACT THAT THE RATE OF DELIVERY FROM MARY KATHLEEN IS SPREAD OVER THE WHOLE PERIOD THROUGH 1986.

3. ANTHONY ALSO TOLD A PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONER THAT HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT HAD ACCEPTED THAT CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO BY MINING COMPANIES BEFORE 1972 SHOULD BE HONORED. END UNCLASSIFIED.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CANBER 01743 090317Z

4. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT: PETER FIELDS, NOW ASSISTANT SECRETARY, URANIUM EXPORTS BRANCH, URANIUM AND ELECTRICITY DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND RESOURCES, HAS TOLD EMBOFF THAT ANTHONY'S "SUMS" ARE ESSENTIALLY CORRECT.

5. THE DEPARTMENT WILL NO DOUBT BE INTERESTED TO NOTE THAT FIELDS, WHO WELL KNOWN TO DEPARTMENT IN HIS FORMER CAPACITY AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY, NUMBER 3 BRANCH (METALS AND MINERALS), COMMODITY POLICY DIVISION, DOT (DT&R), IS ONE OF FIRST EXAMPLES OF INEVITABLE SHUFFLE RESULTING FROM RECENT AMALGAMATION OF DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE AND DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL RESOURCES INTO DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND RESOURCES (REFTELS). AS HIS TITLE IMPLIES, HE IS NOW WORKING FULL TIME ON PROBLEM OF URANIUM EXPORTS. HE PROVED TO BE A VALUABLE EMBASSY CONTACT IN HIS FORMER POSITION AND NO DOUBT WILL CONTINUE TO BE SO IN HIS NEW POSITION. END OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.
ALSTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: URANIUM, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CANBER01743
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780106-0852
Format: TEL
From: CANBERRA OECD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780389/aaaacxgu.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f506d9ca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CANBERRA 8866, 77 CANBERRA 912
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3391681
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANTHONY DECLARES THAT RANGER MINE NEEDED TO FILL URANIUM CONTRACTS
TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, ETRD, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f506d9ca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014